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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/694,054	10/28/2003	Keiichi Kunimoto	740737-282	3885
22204	7590	10/02/2006	EXAMINER	
NIXON PEABODY, LLP 401 9TH STREET, NW SUITE 900 WASHINGTON, DC 20004-2128			CHAMBERS, TROY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3641	

DATE MAILED: 10/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/694,054

Applicant(s)

KUNIMOTO, KEIICHI

Examiner

Troy Chambers

Art Unit

3641

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08/09/06.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5 and 6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5 and 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Per the applicant's request, the finality of the Office action mailed 07/24/2006.

The instant action is non-final with a response period of three (3) months. In the future, any responses to an Office action, including a petition, should include a proper request for consideration. (See, 37 C.F.R. 1.181 (c)). This is the very reason the Examiner instructed the applicant to respond to the Office action and include a request to withdraw the finality thereof. (See, Applicant's Petition Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.181, paragraph 10). This would have avoided the need for a petition.

Specification

2. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: No antecedent basis in specification for element described as "driving mechanism" (claim 1) or gas passage forming member (should be gas passage forming portion) (claim 1).

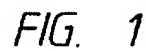
Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-3, 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 5476087 issued to Kunimoto.



- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----|
| a. | a frame | 10 | |
| | i. | barrel | 02 |
| | ii. | loading chamber | 4a |
| | iii. | trigger | 01; |
| b. | a movable member | 51 | |
| | iv. | pressure receiving portion | 51A |
| c. | driving mechanism | 05 | |
| d. | gas supply controller | 35, 36, 37, 40 | |

- e. a gas passage forming member 54
- v. 1st gas passage 21
- vi. 2nd gas passage 51B
- f. movable valve 27
- vii. valve operation col. 9, l. 62 to col. 10, l. 46.

6. With respect to claim 2, the applicant recites, “objects *to be held* in the magazine are paint containing bullets.” Claimed elements that are “to be held” are not positively recited and, therefore, do not recite limiting structural features.

7. With respect to claim 3, the device as disclosed by Kunimoto inherently performs the claimed functions.

8. With respect to claims 5 and 6, Kunimoto discloses:

- g. a gas/accumulation chamber 33
- h. control valve 35.

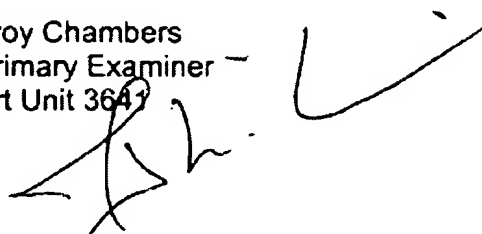
9. Claims 1-3, 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 5477843 issued to Kunimoto. The ‘843 has the same or similar relevant structure similar to that of the ‘087 patent as shown below.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Troy Chambers whose telephone number is (571) 272-6874 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., M-F. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael J. Carone, can be reached at (571) 272-6873.

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Art Unit: 3641

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Troy Chambers
Primary Examiner -
Art Unit 3641

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Troy Chambers', is written over the printed name. To the right of the signature is a large, stylized checkmark.

TC
09/21/2006